The co-existence of transferable quotas and quotas based on price may lead to some speculation and, therefore, the FCFS releases are so timed that speculation is minimised and genuine exporters are provided with ample opportunity to obtain export entitlements.

Setting up of a Branch of NIFT in Trivandrum

1688. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala requested for assistance to set up a branch of National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) in Trivandrum; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to open the branch of NIFT at Trivandrum?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) Some State Governments, including the Government of Kerala, have requested that a branch of the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) be opened in their State. At present it has been decided to open a new branch of NIFT only at Bangalore in the current year.

Diversification and Marketing for Jute Products

1689. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKEHERJEE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a comprehensive plan for diversification of jute products and marketing has been made by Ministry of Rural Development and Textiles as reported in the "Statesmen" dated 10.7.97;

(b) whether the same is to be implemented through Jute Corporation of India; and

(c) the salient features of the plan including the investments planned and likely date of commencement of implementation of the Plan?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, have launched a National Jute Programme for diversification and marketing of jute products in assistance with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) with effect from June, 1992. The Programme had an initial duration of five years which has since been extended upto May, 1998. Under the Programme UNDP is to provide an assistance of US $23 million with equal matching contribution from Govt. of India for implementation of several projects to facilitate diversification in jute sector, strengthen R&D capacity and provide infrastructural support for transfer of technology, market promotion and enhancement of exports.

कपास उत्पादन की कम दर

1690. **श्री राम जेठमलानी:** क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में कपास उत्पादन की दर विश्व में औसत उत्पादन दर की तुलना में कम है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में तथ्य क्या है तथा विश्व में अधिकतम उत्पादन दर क्या है और यह अधिकतम दर किस देश में है;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने उत्पादन दर को बढ़ाने के लिये काटन टेक्नोलोजी मिशन स्थापित करने का निर्णय लिया है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो मिशन की स्थापना कब तक किये जाने की संभावना है?

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री आर० एल० जालप्पा): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) कपास सलाहकार बोर्ड द्वारा भारत में कपास की उत्पादकता का नवीनतम अनुमान 305 किलोग्राम प्रति हैक्टेयर है। कृषि मंत्रालय में 1995 में विश्व औसत उत्पादकता 582 किलोग्राम प्रति हैक्टेयर होने की रिपोर्ट दी है। इजरायल में सबसे अधिक उत्पादकता होने की सूचना मिली है जो कि 1720 किलोग्राम प्रति हैक्टेयर है।